

CLAIMS LISTING

1. An impact absorbing body disposed below feet of an occupant of an automobile as interposed between a body panel and a floor covering laid apart from the body panel toward a cabin, ~~characterized in that~~ the impact absorbing body is comprised
5 of:

a plurality of load supporting portions [[,]] having V-lettered cross-sections forming grooves arranged parallel to a face facing toward the cabin of said body panel[[,]];

- 10 the load supporting portions [[are]] disposed side by side along the face facing toward the cabin of said body panel; ~~and neighboring load supporting portions are connected by a flat plate shaped bridge portion.~~

a flat-plate-shaped bridge portion connecting neighboring load supporting portions;

- 15 the impact absorbing body made from a material obtained by foaming a synthetic resin material;

each of the load supporting portion having a thickness of 6 - 15 mm; and
the flat-plate-shaped bridge portion having a thickness of 3 - 15 mm.

- 20 2. (Currently Amended) The impact absorbing body according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the neighboring load supporting portions are connected at ends thereof on a side toward the floor covering by the flat-plate-shaped bridge portion.

- 25 3. (Original) The impact absorbing body according to claim 1, wherein the body panel below the feet of the occupant has a flat-shaped flat portion and a rising wall portion extended obliquely upward from a front edge of the flat portion, and each of said load supporting portions and said bridge portions are disposed over both said flat portion and said rising wall portion.

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4. (Currently Amended) The impact absorbing body according to claim 1, configured such that, when energy absorbed thereby when compressed in ~~[[its]]~~ thickness direction is 30 J, ~~[[then]]~~ the generated responsive load is less than 3.0 kN.
5. (Canceled)
6. (Canceled)
7. (Currently Amended) The impact absorbing body according to claim ~~[[6]]~~ 1,
wherein a length of a face facing toward the cabin of said bridge portion in a direction parallel to the face facing toward the cabin of said body panel and also in a direction perpendicular to the groove formed by said load supporting portion is 20 - 50 mm.
8. (Currently Amended) The impact absorbing body according to claim ~~[[5]]~~ 1,
wherein a wedge angle on a cross-section of the groove formed by said load supporting portions having the V-lettered cross-section is 5 - 60°.
9. (Currently Amended) The impact absorbing body according to claim 1,
~~characterized in that~~ wherein said bridge portion is provided therein with a plurality of through holes having a diameter of 5 - 10 mm.
10. (Currently Amended) The impact absorbing body according to claim 1,
~~characterized in that~~ wherein ~~[[it]]~~ the impact absorbing body is provided by molding an aggregate of cylindrical resin granules produced by foaming a synthetic resin material and forming the foamed material into a cylindrical shape.

11. (Currently Amended) The impact absorbing body according to claim 10,
~~characterized in that said cylindrical resin granule has its inner face roughened~~
wherein an inner face of the cylindrical resin granule is roughened.

5 12. (Original) The impact absorbing body according to claim 10, wherein said
cylindrical resin granule has a hollow portion formed to have a cross-section of an
elliptical shape and the ellipticity of the elliptical shape is 10 - 70%.

10 13. (Original) The impact absorbing body according to claim 10, wherein a majority of
said cylindrical resin granules within said impact absorbing body are arranged to be
out of alignment with a thickness direction thereof.

15 14. (Currently Amended) The impact absorbing body according to claim 10,
~~characterized in that~~ wherein ~~[[it]] the impact absorbing body~~ is configured to have
an air permeability of 2.0 cc/cm²/sec or above ~~in accordance with JIS L1096.~~

20 15. (Currently Amended) The impact absorbing body according to claim 10,
~~characterized in that~~ wherein, in a state where said impact absorbing body is
laminated on a face facing toward outside the automobile of said floor covering, a
laminate of said floor covering and said impact absorbing body is configured to
have a permeability greater than 0 cc/cm²/sec and smaller than 90 cc/cm²/sec.

25 16. (Original) The impact absorbing body according to claim 10, wherein a face facing
toward outside the automobile of said impact absorbing body is roughened.

17. (Currently Amended) The impact absorbing body according to claim 10,
~~characterized in that~~ wherein ~~[[it]] the impact absorbing body~~ is provided by
molding an aggregate of cylindrical resin granules into a form having concavities
and convexities on a face thereof facing toward outside the automobile and ~~[[it]]~~ has

a felt laminated on the concaved and convexed face facing toward outside the automobile.